

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Its Emergency Preparedness Week May 3rd to May 9th!**

*Are you ready?*

#### **Summary**

As we go about our everyday lives, emergencies may seem like a distant possibility. Emergencies, however, can happen anytime and anywhere. Preparing an emergency kit, having an emergency plan and knowing the risks are crucial to minimize the impact of an emergency situation. Preparing for an emergency is important and something the whole family can do. By taking a few simple steps, you can become better prepared to face a range of emergencies and minimize the impact on yourselves and your families.

Mark Emergency Preparedness Week by making a kit. For more information about how you can prepare for emergencies visit [fire.nanaimo.ca](http://fire.nanaimo.ca). Here you will find information and links on how you can prepare your families and workplace for emergencies

*Strategic Link:* The City is committed to Public Safety through education.

#### **Key Points**

- Emergency Preparedness Week is a national event coordinated by Public Safety Canada.
- The City of Nanaimo is encouraging residents to make a kit during this week or check kits their if they already have one.
- Know the risks, Make a plan, prepare a kit.

#### **Quotes**

"Emergency Preparedness Week is a reminder of the unpredictability of emergency situations and the importance of being prepared as individuals and as a community. In a disaster affecting a community, some services we take for granted might be unavailable for several days or even longer. Families should be prepared to take care of themselves at the very minimum for 72 hours, however, due to Nanaimo's location on an island it is recommended that we all prepare for 7 days."

Karen Lindsay  
Emergency Program Manager  
City of Nanaimo

#### **Quick Facts**

- There are over 5000 earthquakes in Canada per year.
- Approximately 85% of Canadians agree that having an emergency kit is important in ensuring their and their family's safety, yet only 40% have prepared or bought an emergency kit.
- Using non-voice communication technology like text messaging, email, or social media instead of telephones takes up less bandwidth and helps reduce network congestion after an emergency

Continued... Its Emergency Preparedness Week May 3rd to May 9th!

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